

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/502,311
Applicant : Stefan Haar
Filed : January 12, 2005
Art Unit : 3709
Examiner : Joseph S. DeFrank
Docket No. : 1179_023 US01
Confirmation No.: 4003
Customer No. : 72,742
Title : A METHOD FOR THE OPERATION OF A PANEL
PLACEMENT SYSTEM FOR PUNCHING PRESSES AND
CONNECTION MEANS TO CARRY OUT THE METHOD

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT WITH TRAVERSE

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement, dated September 4, 2007 and pursuant to 35 USC §121, Applicant herein provisionally elects, with traverse, to prosecute Species I(a) and Claims 1-3, 4, 6-10, 13 and 14, readable thereupon.

With regard to the non-elected claims, Applicant herein respectfully submits that if any of the generic claims are found allowable, that the pending Restriction Requirement will be withdrawn. Otherwise, Applicant retains the right to file divisional applications to the non-elected subject matter.

Applicants respectfully traverse this Restriction Requirement since the subject matter of all of the pending claims – is sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the elected claims would necessarily encompass a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is clearly stated that “[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits.” It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and improper duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

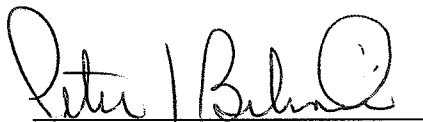
As to the Restriction Requirement itself, Applicant believes entry of this response and expedited examination of the elected claims is respectfully requested at this time.

If the Examiner wishes to expedite disposition of the above-captioned patent application, he is invited to contact Applicant’s representative at the telephone number below.

It is believed no fee is required for the filing of this response. However, in the event that any additional fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-3010 for any additional fees and to charge any overpayments thereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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